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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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TOPIC Soviet Troops in Neustrelitz

EVALUATION see below

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DATE OF CONTENT 4 December 1951 to 5 January 1952

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DATE PREPARED 5 February 1952

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PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS.

DO NOT CIRCULATE

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1. On 5 January 1952, the Alte Grenadier Kaserne on Strelitzer Strasse, Neustrelitz (N 54/U 54) quartered a mortar unit of soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets. The quarters were lighted in the evening hours.

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2. Between 11 and 16 December 1951, the Neue Infanterie Kaserne on Penzliner Chaussee quartered an undetermined number of troops, including a tank unit of soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. About 50 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were seen assembling in the barracks yard on 16 December, while another 50 men were seen digging in the billeting area. Two tanks were parked in the yard.

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3. On 29 December, the restricted Schlossgarten area on Schlosskoppel Allee was occupied by an AAA unit of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Three 37-mm AA guns were noticed in emplacements in the restricted area on 26 and 29 December.

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4. On 2 January 1952, the restricted Tiergarten area on Tiergartenstrasse was occupied by an engineer unit with soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets. Troops observed there included about 36 men engaged in physical training, 45 men marching with entrenching tools and about 25 men drilling with gas masks and gas protective clothing.

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5. On 5 January 1952, the Neue Infanterie Kaserne on Penzliner Chaussee was occupied to capacity by troops with red-bordered black epaulets. One JS tank and T-34 tanks were seen in the billeting area and in the training field adjoining the installation to the north. Thirty soldiers received instruction on the T-34 tanks.

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German worker employed in the installation said that the officers in the Neue Infanterie Kaserne included Senior Lieutenant Zhukov (fnu), a son of Marshal Zhukov.

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6. On 5 January 1952, the Alte Grenadier Kaserne on Strelitzerstrasse was occupied to capacity. About 150 troops with red-bordered black epaulets were seen in the barracks yard, while 10 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets practiced with three 102-mm mortars in the adjoining training area.

Five 37-mm AA guns were observed to be emplaced in the restricted Schlossgarten area on 5 January 1952.

7. On 3 January 1952, the Neue Infanterie Kaserne on Ponzliner Chaussee quartered from 3,000 to 4,000 troops, most of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Numerous tanks were seen in the billeting area. Soldiers told [ ] that the installation quartered tank units and an armored reconnaissance unit. The latter unit was said to be commanded by Colonel Kusnetsev (phonetic spelling) (fnu). [ ] A local resident [ ] said that the officers in the installation included one Colonel Khromov (phonetic spelling) (fnu). [ ] [ ] about 150 tanks, primarily T-34s, were stationed in the Neue Infanterie Kaserne.

During the period specified, the troops were seen receiving close-order drill at squad and platoon level with and without arms and holding field exercises up to company level at the training area west of the installation. Up to 60 trucks were occasionally involved in these field exercises. Most of the tanks remained in sheds at the training field during the nights, with only a few tanks returning to the installation upon completion of the exercises. Between 25 December 1951 and 3 January 1952, about 250 recruits were seen practicing individual drill and drill at squad level including saluting and marching in the barracks yard. About 90 soldiers received training in firing in the adjoining training area, and other troops were engaged in record firing with subcaliber bores inserted into the guns of two T-34 tanks.

9. In early December 1951, [ ] a division headquarters was located in the Schuetzenhaus in the restricted area on Glanbeck Lake. The division was said to be under the command of Lieutenant General Shlapin (phonetic spelling) (fnu) [ ]

10. On 17 December 1951, ten amphibious vehicles, about 2 meters wide and from 3.5 to 4 meters long, were seen entering the restricted Tiergarten area.

The ten amphibious cars and two others of the same type were subsequently seen in a newly erected shed about 60 meters long.

11. On 16 December, the Alte Grenadier Kaserne on Strelitzerstrasse quartered artillery and mortar units of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Colonel Orlov (phonetic spelling) (fnu) was identified as the commanding officer of the mortar unit. About 25 model 38 mortars of 120 mm and about 20 x 122-mm artillery pieces, apparently model 1938 field howitzers, were seen in a storage building on Strelitzer Strasse. Between 4 and 16 December 1951, the troops in the billeting area were engaged in platoon drill with arms,

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theoretical instruction, physical training and mortar drill with practice ammunition. From 40 to 50 trucks were seen in the garages in the billeting area.

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12. On 18 December 1951, a German employee in the Alte Grenadier Kaserne said that all troops at the Neustrelitz military post were allegedly alerted on 12 December and the following days. Officers and men were said to be restricted to quarters, and vehicles were said to be kept ready for operation. Dischargees from all barracks installations at the post returned home in the middle of December 1951. Small groups of up to 10 men were seen on their way to the railroad station. [redacted] from some of the dischargees that they went to a collecting point in Frankfurt/Oder in order to be shipped from there to the U.S.G.R. by the train. [redacted] from soldiers that recruits were expected to arrive at the post in the middle of December 1951. \*

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- \* [redacted] Comment. The information confirms the disposition of units in Neustrelitz as specified in the last report of November 1951. [redacted] The 20 x 122-mm field howitzers which, according to paragraph 11 of the present report, were seen in the Alte Grenadier Kaserne cannot be accounted for because a tank division is believed to have only one organic artillery battalion with 12 x 122-mm field howitzers. The artillery battalion of the 9th Gds Tank Div is carried in the restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse on the basis of the reference report. Furthermore, the 40 to 50 trucks observed in the Alte Grenadier Kaserne are indicative of the presence of only one unit, namely the division's 234th Mort Regt which is carried there. The regiment probably has a total of 65 to 75 motor vehicles. It is probably under the command of Colonel Orlov (fnu) who is reported for the first time. Lieutenant Colonel Kalininshenkov (fnu) was only once identified as commanding officer of the 234th Mort Regt in August 1947. Other officers mentioned in the present report for the first time are Lieutenant General Shlapin (fnu), tentatively carried as commanding general of the 9th Gds Tank Div; and Colonel Kusnetsev (fnu), tentatively carried as commanding officer of the division's 7th Gds Rcn Bn.

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